



# FOREST PEST REPORTER

Division of Plant Industry CN 330 Trenton, NJ 08625-0330 609-292-5440

## Gypsy Moth Spraying Completed

The gypsy moth aerial suppression program which began in Salem County of May 7th was completed in Union County on May 30, 1996. There was a total of 28 municipalities in nine counties participating in the project with 21,311 acres being treated.

The gypsy moth aerial contract was awarded to DOWNTOWN AERO Crop Service of Vineland, New Jersey by the Treasury Department. The cost of application remained at \$10.54 per acre for 24 B.I.U.'s of Bacillus thuringiensis (B.t.), application and \$11.90 per acre for a 30 B.I.U. application of B.t. Only one municipality used the 24 B.I.U. rate, all others selected 30 B.I.U.'s per acre. A summary of the actual acres treated, by municipality and county, is shown in Table 1.

There was one spraying incident which occurred on the morning of May 14th during the course of the operation. A Grumman Ag Cat, loaded with 175 gallons of B.t., had engine failure on take off from DOWNTOWN Airport. The pilot dumped the B.t. and coasted into a cultivated field at the end of the runway. The plane's tail section was damaged but the pilot was uninjured. Since the material was B.t. and it was quickly absorbed into the sandy soil, the NJDEP, Office of Pesticides, required no removal of soil.

The USDA, Forest Service approved full cost-share funding for local governments and the state which amounts to \$386,300. There are also positive indications that the U.S. Congress will be funding gypsy moth suppression projects in 1997.

Post-spray evaluations are currently underway and generally the foliage protection looks good. However, there are some pockets of heavy damage in treatment areas where egg mass counts were very high.

### 17-YEAR CICADA EMERGE IN HUGE NUMBERS

During early May the Department was called by a number of newspaper reporters regarding the expected emergence of Brood II of the periodical cicada, Magicicada septendecim (L.) beginning during the latter part of May. This insect spends all but a couple of months of its 17 year life cycle in the ground feeding on roots and its last emergence was in 1979. Although the pest can damage young trees by its egg laying habits it is a real nuisance when they emerge in residential areas. The first reported emergence of 17-year Cicada occurred on May 20th in Avenel (Union County) with a resident collecting six buckets of the 1-2 inch crayfish like nymphs from their back

yard and off the sides of their home.

Presently, huge numbers of the 17-year Cicada have emerged in parts of Atlantic, Bergen, Cape May, Cumberland, Essex, Middlesex, Morris, Somerset and Union counties. Towns with the most complaints include Tenaflly, Englewood, Scotch Plains, Westfield, Avenel, Iselin, Fanwood, Bernardsville, Estell Manor, Tuckahoe, Short Hills, South Mountain Reservation, Kinnelon, Morristown, Mendham, and around the Millville airport.

The mating call or "song" of the male cicadas will continue until the end of June and dead branch tips, caused by the egg laying by the female cicadas, will begin to appear in early July.

### GYPSY MOTH SUPPRESSION PROGRAM STAFF:

Bureau Chief - John Kegg  
Entomologist - Joseph Zoltowski  
Senior Inspector - William Fehr, Sr.  
Secretary - Jacqueline Thomas

Table 1. - Acres treated with B.t.k in the New Jersey Cooperative Gypsy Moth Suppression Project. NJDA 1996

<u>County</u>	<u>Municipality or State Owned Land</u>	<u>Number Blocks</u>	<u>Actual Acres</u>
Atlantic 1/	Egg Harbor Twp.	2	186
Burlington	Evesham Twp.	1	95
	Shamong Twp.	1	673
	Southampton Twp.	3	452
Camden	Berlin Twp.	3	515
	Clememton Bor.	1	160
	Gibbsboro Bor.	1	30
	Pine Hill Bor.	1	30
	Voorhees Twp.	1	889
	Waterford Twp.	1	675
Cape May	Dennis Twp.	16	1,525
	Middle Twp.	7	911
	Upper Twp.	11	2,269
	Woodbine Bor.	1	75
Cumberland	Commercial Twp.	4	1,354
	Fairfield Twp.	3	480
	Hopewell Twp.	2	341
	Maurice River Twp.	8	1,915
	Millville City	9	3,143
	Vineland City	9	1,592
Gloucester	Franklin Twp.	1	198
Ocean	Dover Twp.2/	0	0
	Island Heights Bor.	2	180
	Lakeland Twp.	1	100
Salem	Elsinboro Twp.	1	65
	Lower Alloway Creek Twp.	1	121
	Pittsgrove Twp.	12	2,747
	Upper Pittsgrove Twp.	1	140
<u>Union</u>	<u>Scotch Plains Twp.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>450</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>28 municipalites</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>21,311</b>

1/ Aerial treatment started May 7 and ended May 30, 1996

2/ Dropped out of program